

REMARKS

These remarks are in response to the Non-final Office Action mailed June 6, 2006. No claims have been amended. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the remarks below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-24, and 55-58 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0042933 to Lewis *et al.* ("Lewis *et al.* publication"). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that the cited reference is not prior art to Applicants' claimed invention.

The Lewis *et al.* publication is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/910,243 filed July 20, 2001, which is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/442,074, filed Nov. 16, 1999, which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/108,915, filed November 17, 1998 (Exhibit A, attached hereto) and Provisional Application No. 60/108,674, filed November 16, 1998 (Exhibit B, attached hereto).

The present application claims priority to Provisional Application No. 60/140,027, filed June 16, 1999 (Exhibit C, attached hereto).

Applicants submit that the Lewis *et al.* publication is only entitled to the disclosure found in paragraph 88 after November 16, 1999. Applicants submit that the Provisional Applications to which the Lewis *et al.* publication claims priority do not teach or suggest remote analysis of an odor (see Exhibits A and B).

The present application, however, is entitled to its priority date of June 16, 1999, prior to the effective date of the alleged prior art of the Lewis *et al.* publication. Applicants submit that the Provisional Application to which the present application

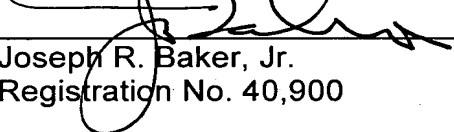
claims priority (Exhibit C) discloses and contemplates remote characterization of an odor (including disease analysis) using sensors. Applicants submit that the Lewis *et al.* publication (including its priority claims) is not prior art under §102(e). The Lewis *et al.* publication does not teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention prior to Applicants' priority date. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance. Should any issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned representative. No fee is believed to be due with respect to the filing of this paper. If any required fee is due, or the credit of any overpayment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 6, 2006

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